

PART 501 - AUTHORIZATIONS

SUBPART A - REVIEW AND APPROVAL

MT501.04(b)(2)(iii)

MT501.03 Compliance of engineering work with laws and regulations.

(a)(1) Before the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical assistance on other than a preliminary basis, NRCS will document that the landowner/operator has obtained all required rights, permits or approvals necessary to construct, operate, maintain, or apply a conservation measure (as a minimum, the conservation planning notes shall be documented that the landowner or operator has the necessary rights, permits, or approvals prior to a final design or construction layout.) Refer to General Manual-450, Part 405 – FEDERAL, STATE, and LOCAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS, page 405-1 and 405-2 for additional guidance on landowner and NRCS responsibilities.

(c)(i) The state conservation engineer will approve and seal all engineering plans for water storage and transmission structures on all National Forest Service lands. Other types of projects can be approved by those with appropriate engineering approval authority. Additional guidance can be found in the Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Memorandum of Understanding (Pages 501-25 through 501-31 dated July 1980).

(ii) All engineering plans sent to other federal or state agencies for review and/or approval and those plans to be used as an "Invitation to Bid" and formal contract award for construction will be approved and sealed by a registered NRCS engineer as delegated with appropriate approval authority and as outlined in the State of Montana, Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Laws and Rules. One copy of these approved and sealed plans will be submitted to the state conservation engineer.

(iii) The state conservation engineer will approve and seal these plans if the appropriate NRCS engineer is not registered in Montana.

(c)(2) Guidance on the US Army Corps of Engineers, Section 404 permits can be found in the General Manual-450, Part 405.01 Land owners and operators responsibility.

MT501.04 Engineering job approval authority.

(b)(2)(i) All engineering drawings, specifications, written recommendations, and reports will be identified as Class I through Class VIII and the class will be based on the type, magnitude, complexity, and potential hazard.

(b)(2)(ii) Final engineering review and/or approval shall be completed by the lowest level of approval as delegated.

(b)(2)(iii) Engineering drawings, specifications, and reports as outlined in the Engineering Field Manual, Chapter 5, Preparation of Engineering Plans, should be submitted for approval through the regular technical supervisory channels where appropriate approval is not held by the individual. For example, higher job class engineering projects prepared by a technician that require approval by the state conservation engineer should be submitted through the field engineers. The field engineer should make a review and make any correction, if needed, and forward to the senior engineer with comments, changes, recommendations, and signature of approval. The final project should be submitted to the state conservation engineer for final signature, if so required.

MT501-12(1)

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MT501.04 Engineering Job Approval Authority.

MT501.04(b)(2)(iv)

(b)(2)(iv) All engineering works, including the inventory, planning, preliminary investigation, design, construction and reports, should be done by personnel in accordance with their engineering competence and delegated approval authority. No matter who performs the actual work, the responsibility for final review and approval is assigned to the person authorized to review and approve engineering work of the class involved.

(b)(3)(i) In the General Manual–180, Part 409 shows the control factors for various engineering practices and systems. Any one controlling factor in a system is limiting. If more than one practice standard is used on a project, the most restrictive controlling factor sets the job class.

(b)(3)(ii) Personnel approving the various phases of engineering work shall receive delegation of authority in writing. Planning, vegetative and engineering approval authorities are found in the General Manual–180, Part 409. Montana Individual Engineering Practices (MT-ENG-15) worksheet can serve as official documentation for engineering. MT-ENG-15 "Excel" worksheet is located on the Montana NRCS ftp site under /pub/engr/Engineering Worksheets/ef15.

(b)(3)(iii) Employees will be given authority to approve Investigation and Evaluation (I&E), Planning, Design, and Construction only after adequate training and upon demonstrated proficiency. This does not limit anyone from developing, designing, or accomplishing any phase of a project. This limits only their approval authority.

(b)(3)(iv) Displayed competence in an engineering practice will merit delegation of an engineering approval authority.

(b)(3)(v) Engineering job approval authority for the senior engineer will be delegated and approved by the state conservation engineer. The senior engineer will delegate engineering approval authority to the field engineers and staff.

(b)(3)(vi) Engineering job approval authority for the Areas will be delegated and approved by the field engineer and/or senior engineer, as appropriate.

(b)(3)(vii) Engineering job approval authority will be reviewed at least once every three years, yet may be reviewed and revised at any time the appropriate technical or administrative supervisor believes it appropriate.

(b)(3)(viii) All Class V, VI, VII, and VIII jobs are to be identified early in the planning stages to allow scheduling of appropriate engineering staff and interdisciplinary staff specialists. For planning and design jobs exceeding the field engineer's and senior engineer's approval authority, the senior engineer will work with the assistant state conservationist for field operations to schedule the appropriate staff. The projects are to be scheduled according to General Manual–330, Part 404.

MT501-12(2)

SUBPART A - REVIEW AND APPROVAL

MT501.08(a)(1)

MT501.06 Engineering work reviewed for other agencies.

(a)(1)(i) Engineering reviews of plans for cooperating agencies will be the same as assigned for all job approval.

(a)(1)(ii) The state conservation engineer or appropriate senior engineer will approve and seal the review if the field engineer or senior engineer is not registered in Montana.

(b)(1) The review report for engineering work reviewed for the U.S. Forest Service will be approved and sealed by the state conservation engineer. Review reports for other federal and state agencies will be approved and sealed by a registered NRCS engineer, with appropriate approval authority.

(b)(1)(i) The state conservation engineer will approve and seal the review reports if the field engineer or appropriate senior engineer is not registered.

MT501.08 State approval authority for design of engineering practices.

(a)(1) Natural Resource Conservation Service national delegated approval authority for the Montana state conservation engineer (Class VI and VII) is shown on page MT501-12(4). Design reviews are to be conducted according to National Engineering Manual, 501.05 Engineering Job Review. It is important that larger job class projects be scheduled in advance so the reviews can be completed in a timely manner.

MT501-12(3)

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MT501.08(a) State of Montana approval authority for review of engineering practices.

Practice or Element	Any-Hazard Potential	Any-Shoreline Visual Resources	402-Dam, Floodwater Retarding 349-Dam, Multi-Purpose 410-Grade Stabilization Structure 436-Irrigation Storage Reservoir 350-Sediment Gasin 587-Structure for Water Control	348-Dam Diversion 400-Floodwater Diversion 356-Dike 404-Floodway	320-Irrigation Canal or Lateral 430-Irrigation Water Conveyance	451-Fire Control 455-Toxic Discharge Control	456-Highwall Treatment 453-Landslide Treatment 452-Shaft and Adit Closing 454-Subsidence Treatment	582-Open Channel 584-Stream Channel Stabilization 580-Streambank & Shoreline Protection	516-Pipeline 533-Pump Plant for Water Control	- Recreation Facilities	608-Surface Drain, Main or Lateral	313-Waste Storage Facility 359-Waste Treatment Lagoon
AK												
AZ			6		6			6				6
CA	7	7	7	7	7			7	7	7	6	7
HI												
ID					6			6				
NM	7		7	7	7		6	7	6	6	6	6
NV							6	6				
OR			6	6	6			7	6			6
PB												
UT	6		6					6	6			
WA	6		6	7	7			7	7	7		7
CO		7			6			6	6		6	6
KS	6		6	6	6			7	6	6	6	6
MT	6		6	7	7			7	7			
NE	7	6	7	7	7		6	7	7	7	6	7
ND	6		6	6	6			6	6			6
SD												
WY	7		6	7	7	6	7	7	6			6
AR	6		6	6				6	6		6	7
LA	6			7				6	6			6
OK	7		7	6	6		7	7	6	6	6	7
TX	7	7	7	7	7	6	7	7	6	7	7	7
AL	6		6	6				6		6	6	7
FL	6				6			6			6	6
GA	6	6	6									6
KY	6					7	7					
MS	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	7	6	6	6	6
NC	6		6	6	6			6	6			7
PR								6				
SC	6		6	6				6		6		6
TN	7	7	7	7	6	7	7	7	6	7		7
VA	6		6	6		6	6	6				6
IL	6		6			6	6	6	6	6	6	6
IN	6					6	6	6			6	6
IA	7	7	7	7				7	6	7	7	7
MI	6		6	6				6			6	6
MN	6		6	6				6				6
MO	7		7	7				6	7	6	6	6
OH	6	7	6	6		6	6	6			6	6
WI	6		6	6				6				6
CT	6		6	6				6				6
DE	6			6	6			6			6	6
ME												
MD												6
MA								6				
NH												
NJ		7			6							6
NY	7		7	7			6	7		6	7	7
PA	6		6			6	6	6		6		6
RI												
VT	6							6				6
WV	7		7	7		7	7	7		7		7

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